SEP 0 9 2002 (C)

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

(pplicants:

YOSHIOKA, et al.

Serial No.:

-09/493,104

Filed:

January 28, 2000

For:

METHOD OF PROCESSING SPECIMENS, AND APPARATUS

THEREFOR AND A METHOD OF MANUFACTURE OF A

**MAGNETIC HEAD** 

Art Group:

1746

Examiner:

A. Olsen

## <u>AMENDMENT</u>

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

September 9, 2002

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed May 9, 2002, the time period for responding having been extended one month until September 9, 2002, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

## **IN THE CLAIMS**:

Please amend Claims 1 - 4 and 13 - 22 as follows:

1. (Twice amended) A method of processing a specimen comprising:

a first step of etching a specimen, which is a lamination layer formed on a substrate and includes at least one layer made of NiFe alloy or NiFeCo alloy, by gas plasma with a gas which contains chlorine at a temperature of the specimen below 200°C in an etching chamber;

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